## In Astrakhan Region Azerbaijani citizens to stand trial for illegal sturgeon fishing in Caspian Sea by organized criminal group

Astrakhan Region investigating bodies of the Russia's Investigative Committee have finished investigating a criminal case against three residents of Azerbaijan charged with illegal catching of especially valuable water biological resources put in Red Book of the Russian Federation by an organized criminal group (part 3 of article 258.1 of the RF Penal Code).

Investigators have revealed that on 13 May 2014, three citizens of Azerbaijan sailed a Bayda boat to the north of the Caspian Sea to catch sturgeons by 14 fixed nets 1,408 meters long set off the Maly Zhemchuzhny island, Kamyzyak District, Astrakhan Region.

Their criminal activity was broken up by officers of the Lakmykia and Astrakhan Region border department of the Federal Security Service. The officers found 486 live sturgeons in poachers' nets and released them back into the sea.

The investigators have gathered enough evidence so the criminal case with the approved indictment has been sent to court to be tried on the merits.

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